



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 501ST MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRIGADE
UNIT #15282
APO AP 96205-5282

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

IADK-CDR

25 September 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Sponsorship and Introduction of New Members to the Red Dragon Team

1. First of all, welcome to the 501st Military Intelligence (MI) Brigade. We are excited about your arrival and anxious to introduce you to the Red Dragon Team. The Republic of Korea presents marvelous opportunities and unique challenges for Soldiers and Civilians stationed here. In this dynamic environment, I want you to understand my expectations of you as the newest members of our great organization.

2. I have asked every officer, noncommissioned officer, and Civilian leader within our Brigade to be actively engaged with the sponsorship and introduction of our new Soldiers and Civilian personnel. As a new Soldier or Civilian I want you to be part of the team from the moment you arrive into our Brigade. To ensure you are properly sponsored the following specific actions will be executed by leader:

a. Your sponsor will sit down with you and engage in "Under the Oak Tree" (UTOT) counseling within the first 24 hours of your arrival. UTOT counseling is an informal counseling and agreement between two people. During this first counseling ensure you ask questions about the unit, mission, life in Korea, etc. Among other things, we will discuss with you our Good Neighbor Programs, as they are a wonderful way for new folks to be fully immersed into Korean Culture. We will also discuss appropriate and inappropriate behaviors here in the Korean Theater. It is particularly important to understand the impact actions of US Soldiers/Civilians have on our Korean hosts – both from a positive and negative sense. It is critical that you clearly understand that you not only represent yourself as individuals to our Korean hosts, but you also represent the United States Army, and in a greater sense the United States of America.

b. Your sponsor will speak to you about Composite Risk Management (CRM) and mitigation. My guidance to you is to make risk mitigation a top priority during your on and off duty time. Every member of our team is a safety officer and we each need to understand our role in conducting risk assessment and mitigation. Bottom line, risk mitigation by Soldiers and Civilians in our Brigade improves work performance, overall safety, and combat readiness of the Red Dragon Team.

c. You will be assigned a battle buddy with the focus of helping to guide you through the early difficult period of adjustment. Your battle buddy will help you understand the Korean environment and what to expect while you are here.

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d. You will be provided with unit SOPs and policy letters. Ensure you read and understand the information contained within these policies. Additionally, ensure you have an adequate understanding of the Eighth United States Army Standards of Conduct handbook.

e. You will be provided a detailed review of off-limits establishments. We will cover the curfew policy and procedures, and the consequences for violations of the policy. Please understand the dangers of alcohol abuse, and that most crimes occurring here on Peninsula involve the misuse of alcohol. Underage drinking will not be tolerated and intoxication is not an excuse for misconduct. Many promising careers and lives have been ruined because of choices made while under the influence of alcohol.

3. As is true for any successful organization, leaders lead by example. I expect you to uphold the Army standards and live the Army Values. Our Profession of Arms is not a 'nine to five' task – it is something you need to live and breathe daily.

4. Thank you for selfless service and dedication to the 501st MI Brigade, our marvelous Korean hosts, and to the United States of America. Your superb service and outstanding mission execution will contribute immensely to maintaining peace in this region of the world and ensures our community is a healthy and safe place to work and live.

“Red Dragons!”

JOHN R. PLASTER
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

RAUL E. ESCRIBANO
COL, MI
Commanding

Print Name

Signature

Date